

House Resolution No. 1643

Whereas, from time to time the members of the Missouri House of Representatives are called upon to recognize the meritorious endeavors of outstanding Show-Me State employees, a task which this legislative body embraces with great enthusiasm; and

Whereas, James Lea of Eugene, Missouri, will retire from his position as Plant Industries Division Director with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, on June 1, 2007, after a thirty-one-year career in state government; and

Whereas, James Lea is an outstanding individual who has faithfully performed his important duties and responsibilities with the utmost professionalism, conscientiousness, and fairness; and

Whereas, as Director of the Plant Industries Division, James Lea has worked hard to prevent the spread of harmful insects and plant diseases, register pesticides, license pesticide applicators, assure label accuracy and quality of commercial feeds and seeds, and inspect fresh fruits and vegetables to assure quality and grade; and

Whereas, prior to assuming his responsibilities as Plant Industries Division Director, James Lea served as a Pesticide Inspector and a Certification Program Manager in the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Pesticide Control and as a Conservation Agent with the Missouri Department of Conservation before returning to the Department of Agriculture as an Enforcement Program Manager and a Supervisor in the Bureau of Pesticide Control; and

Whereas, a native of Springfield, James Lea earned a Bachelor's degree in wildlife conservation and management at Southwest Missouri State University (now known as Missouri State University) in 1975; and

Whereas, James Lea has been blessed with the love and support of a wonderful family whose members include his wife, Kathy Lea; his children, Douglas Matthews and his wife, Dawn, Brian Matthews and his wife, Lanna, Grant Lea, and Angie Lea; his grandchildren, Tavia and Samantha; and his mother, Jo Lea:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join in expressing deep gratitude for the superb service that James Lea has rendered to the Show-Me State during the past thirty-one years and in wishing him ample opportunity to enjoy the better things life has to offer, such as fishing, gardening, and spending more time with his loved ones; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for James Lea, as a measure of our esteem for him.

Offered by _____
Representative Mark J. Bruns
District No. 113

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1643, adopted April 2, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker